

was the product of a creative collaboration between David and Christine Jackman, the owners of Valley Bronze, and Janelle Stewart, the owner of Stewart Springs, Ltd., a drafting company also located in Joseph.

When it is complete, the "Freedom Wall" of the World War II memorial will feature 4,123 gold-plated stars cast by Valley Bronze, each of which will represent 100 American lives lost in the service of our nation during that terrible conflict. Fifty-six pillars will surround the memorial to represent every American state and territory, each of which will be decorated with bronze wreaths made in Joseph. Anchoring the flagpoles at the ceremonial entrance to the monument will be pedestals made by Valley Bronze, and monumental bas relief medallions representing the "victory medallions" given to World War II veterans will be embedded in the floor of the archways at each end of the memorial. Finally, four water fountains and 900 feet of decorative drainage grate will encircle the monument. I have no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that each of the decorations that will adorn the memorial will be cast with the care and precision to befit a monument in honor of America's patriot dead.

Mr. Speaker, awarding this bid to Valley Bronze is a reflection of the beauty of their work and the quality of their craftsmanship. It is fitting that the materials to build this monument to our nation's heroes will be brought together from across the American continent, just as America's sons and daughters came from cities and towns across this great land to answer their nation's call.

The national monument to the veterans of World War II will stand for generations as an enduring testament to the heroism and sacrifice of the men and women who have rightly been called the Greatest Generation. Visitors from across the United States and indeed the rest of the world will journey to our nation's capital to see this monument and pay their own private tribute to the legions of American soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who fought and died to prevent the spread of tyranny. They will do so enjoying the freedom won in part by the exertions of Oregonians, just as the beauty they admire was crafted by Oregonians' hands.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Valley Bronze and Stewart Springs, Ltd. for their outstanding success. The first-rate quality of their work was chosen as the finest in the land, and I am proud to represent them and their patriotic community in the House of Representatives.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING DANIEL KEITH ROBINSON

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Daniel Robinson has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America; and

Whereas, Daniel Robinson has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides; and

Whereas, Daniel Robinson has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Daniel Robinson must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award; and

Therefore, I join with Troop 510, the residents of Muskingum County, and the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Daniel Robinson as he received the Eagle Scout Award.

RECOGNIZING DR. GEORGE KIDD, JR. FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO TIFFIN UNIVERSITY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. George Kidd, Jr., upon his retirement as President of Tiffin University. Dr. Kidd has distinguished himself as one of the nation's outstanding educators, university administrators, and visionaries of higher education.

When Dr. Kidd became Tiffin University's President in April, 1981, the college's enrollment of 375 students occupied three academic buildings. The academic focus was its two-year associate degree program. The school's operating budget had produced seven consecutive annual deficits.

Dr. Kidd's legacy at Tiffin University is a transformed institution of higher knowledge, an innovative curriculum, a distinguished faculty, vibrant campus and a balanced operating budget.

Student enrollment now exceeds 1,600 with a primary focus shifted to the four-year bachelors degree programs. The university facilities now include eleven buildings, including three dormitories, a dining commons, a student center, gymnasium and 38 acres of athletic playing fields.

Dr. Kidd's tireless efforts on behalf of Tiffin University are matched only by his many selfless contributions to the Tiffin community. He has generously given of his time to local community service organizations, including Seneca County United Way, the Chamber of Commerce, Mercy Hospital, and many others.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. George Kidd's contributions to our country are as numerous as the many bright futures he has touched as an educator and a mentor. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him and his loving and equally talented wife, Dianne, good health and our very best wishes.

HORMONE DISRUPTION RESEARCH ACT OF 2002

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Hormone Disruption Research Act of 2002.

Arctic polar bears show high concentrations of certain synthetic compounds in their tissues. Whales in the world's oceans carry PCBs and other contaminants at concentrations which cause developmental defects in humans.

U.S. streams and groundwater show widespread contamination with chemicals, dioxins, and antibiotics. Alligators in Florida's lakes suffer from reproductive problems that appear to be associated with chronic chemical contamination. New studies have made a persuasive case that contaminants were in part or wholly responsible for the loss of the lake trout and herring in the Great Lakes many decades ago.

Rates of infertility, the incidence of testicular cancer in young men, Parkinson's disease, endometriosis, childhood diabetes, and asthma have risen dramatically since 1970.

What does this all mean? Are there connections between rising levels of chemicals in the environment and increasing rates of certain disorders in humans?

In many cases, we simply don't know. We do not have the scientific information that would allow us to draw solid conclusions. But a growing body of research suggests that there is indeed a connection between certain chemicals and human health.

In recent decades, scientists have begun to recognize and define the hazard posed by some chemicals to the human hormone (or endocrine) system. By definition, hormone disrupting chemicals interfere with the normal activity of hormones within the body. Some chemicals mimic natural hormones and send false messages. Other synthetic compounds block hormonal signals and prevent the proper action from taking place. Still others cause disruption by preventing the synthesis of the body's own hormones, or by accelerating their breakdown and excretion. Whatever the mechanism, the bottom line is the same: Any chemical that interferes directly or indirectly with hormones can scramble vital messages, derail development, and undermine health.

We are only now learning that the effects of hormone disruptors may affect more than one generation. Though adults may not show symptoms of exposure themselves, they may pass the "Imprint," or hormonal effects of exposure, on to their children. In those cases, it is the children whose development suffers. Since 1970, childhood cancers, learning disabilities, hyperactivity, autism, juvenile diabetes, early puberty, early testicular cancer, and infertility have increased significantly both in the United States and around the world. There is growing evidence to suggest that hormone disruptors play an important role in all of these disorders.

Today I am proud to introduce the Hormone Disruption Research Act of 2002. This legislation directs the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to conduct a major research program on hormone disruption. In addition, it requires NIEHS to report to the public every two years on the extent to which hormone disruption by chemicals poses a threat to human health and the environment. The bill authorizes \$100 million per year for five years for this critically important program.

To date, federal research on hormone disruption has been scattershot and underfunded, even as evidence about hormone disruption has grown. The research program authorized through the legislation will enable NIEHS to gather solid data about the dangers posed by some chemicals and the mechanisms through which they act. With this information in hand, we can make sensible, informed decisions and policies about our own and our children's health and well-being.